

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION

MI-168. SODDING

1. **SCOPE**
The work shall consist of furnishing all labor, equipment and materials for sodding the areas shown on the drawings or designated by the NRCS inspector.
2. **GENERAL**
The sodding and related operations may be performed at any time of the year except frozen sod shall not be placed nor shall sod be placed on frozen soil.
3. **LIME**
Limestone, where required, shall be standard agricultural ground limestone with a moisture content not in excess of 10 percent. The rate of application shall be as specified on the drawings.
4. **FERTILIZER**
The fertilizer shall be a regular commercial fertilizer (including liquid form) meeting the requirements of the applicable state laws, and shall be in such physical condition to insure uniform application over the area to be fertilized. Rates of application shall be as specified on the drawings or as provided in Construction Specification, MI-166, Seeding.
5. **SOD**
The sod shall consist of strips or blocks of a vigorous growing dense perennial grass turf. The sod shall be sufficiently dense so that when a square 12 x 12 inches (300 mm x 300 mm) is cut to the required thickness and suspended by one corner, it will not tear apart. Sod shall be taken from soils similar to that upon which it is to be placed, except sod from light sand will not be accepted. The sod shall be indigenous to the general locality where it is to be used and shall be reasonably free from weeds.

The sod shall be cut in strips of a uniform width, not less than 10 inches (250 mm), and in lengths of not less than 18 inches (450 mm).
6. **PREPARING THE SOD BED**
The entire surface to be sodded shall be reasonably smooth and free from stones, roots or other debris, and conform to the alignments, grade and cross-section indicated on the drawings.

At this stage, unless otherwise specified, the Contractor shall apply the fertilizer and/or lime as required, and mix them with the surface soil material to a depth of 3 inches (100 mm). Prior to laying the sod, the area to be sodded will be dampened if it is not already in a sufficiently moist condition.
7. **PLACING THE SOD**
Sod shall be carefully placed and tamped. On slopes steeper than 3 horizontal to 1 vertical, the sod shall be pegged with wooden pegs. The pegs shall be spaced not over 2 feet (0.6 m) apart in any direction and shall be driven flush with the surface of the sod.

8. ESTABLISHING THE SOD

The Contractor shall maintain the sod in a growing condition by watering when necessary, after completing each part of the sodding work, for at least 30 days.